

## **MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**Tuesday, September 20, 2005      4:39 p.m.      Room 307 House Office Building, Lansing**

Representative Nitz, Chair, called the meeting to order.

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Kathleen Law, Sheltroun. (10/11)**  
**ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Spade. (1/11)**

Representative Hune made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2005, supported by Representative Casperson. No objections being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to accept the minutes as presented.

The Chair laid SB 538 before the Committee.

SB 538      Brown      Environmental protection; funding; small business pollution prevention loans; make methane digesters and similar technologies eligible for.

Jeanne Laimon, representing Senator Cameron Brown, spoke to the Committee regarding SB 538 and answered questions.

Carol Linteau, representing the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), spoke in opposition to SB 538 and answered questions.

James Clift, representing the Michigan Environmental Council, spoke in opposition to SB 538 and answered questions.

(Representative Ball assumed the Chair at 5:22 p.m.; Representative Nitz returned to the Chair at 5:41 p.m.)

Anne Woiwode, representing the Sierra Club, spoke in opposition to SB 538 and answered questions.

Rob Anderson, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, submitted a card indicating his availability to answer questions regarding SB 538.

Subsequent to discussion, Representative Nitz made a motion to amend SB 538 as follows, supported by Representative Casperson:

1. Amend page 2, line 23, after "**TO**," by inserting "**THE USE OF**".
2. Amend page 4, line 6, after "**FUND**" by striking out the comma and "**AN APPLICANT**".
3. Amend page 4, line 7, after "**SYSTEM**" by inserting a comma and "**AN APPLICANT**".
4. Amend page 4, line 18, after "**ACT**" by striking out the balance of the subdivision and inserting a period.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

**Yeas: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune. (7/11)**

**Nays: Representatives Mayes, Kathleen Law, Sheltroun. (3/11)**

**Pass: None. (0/11) (7/3/1)**

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Representative Mayes made a motion to amend SB 538 as follows, supported by Representative Law:

1. Amend page 4, line 16, after "(C)" by inserting "**THE APPLICANT SHALL BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE STATE LAW AND**".

**UNFAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

**Yeas: Representatives Mayes, Kathleen Law, Sheltroun. (3/11)**

**Nays: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune. (7/11)**

**Pass: None. (0/11) (3/7/0)**

An insufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion did not prevail.

Representative Stahl made a motion to report SB 538 (H-1) with recommendation, supported by Representative Proos.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

**Yeas: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune. (7/11)**

**Nays: Representatives Kathleen Law, Sheltroun. (2/11)**

**Pass: Representative Mayes. (1/11) (7/2/1)**

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Representative Nitz stated that HB 5033, also listed on the Committee agenda for this meeting, would be taken up at a future date.

Standing Committee on Agriculture  
Minutes of Meeting of September 20, 2005  
Page 3

Representative Casperson made a motion to excuse absent members, supported by Representative Sheltroun. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Nitz declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 6:18 p.m.

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Representative Neal Nitz, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk  
(517) 373-8538